

238256

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

(Caption of Case)

Application of Palmetto Wastewater Reclamation LLC
d/b/a Alpine Utilities for adjustment of rates and
charges for, and the modification of certain terms and
conditions related to, the provision of sewer service.

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COVER SHEET

DOCKET
NUMBER: 2012 - 94 - S

(Please type or print)

Submitted by: John M. S. Hoefer, Esquire

SC Bar Number: 2549

Address: PO Box 8416

Telephone: 803-252-3300

Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8416

Fax: 803-771-2410

Other:

Email: jhoefer@willoughbyhoefer.com

NOTE: The cover sheet and information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form is required for use by the Public Service Commission of South Carolina for the purpose of docketing and must be filled out completely.

DOCKETING INFORMATION (Check all that apply)

☐ Emergency Relief demanded in petition

☐ Request for item to be placed on Commission's Agenda expeditiously

☒ Other:

INDUSTRY (Check one)	NATURE OF ACTION (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Affidavit	<input type="checkbox"/> Letter	<input type="checkbox"/> Request
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Certification
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Telecommunications	<input type="checkbox"/> Answer	<input type="checkbox"/> Motion	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Investigation
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Appellate Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Objection	<input type="checkbox"/> Resale Agreement
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Water/Telecom.	<input type="checkbox"/> Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Resale Amendment
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Water/Sewer	<input type="checkbox"/> Brief	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Reconsideration	<input type="checkbox"/> Reservation Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Gas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Rulemaking	<input type="checkbox"/> Response
<input type="checkbox"/> Railroad	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Rule to Show Cause	<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Discovery
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sewer	<input type="checkbox"/> Complaint	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Intervene	<input type="checkbox"/> Return to Petition
<input type="checkbox"/> Telecommunications	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent Order	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Intervene Out of Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Stipulation
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Discovery	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefiled Testimony	<input type="checkbox"/> Subpoena
<input type="checkbox"/> Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit	<input type="checkbox"/> Promotion	<input type="checkbox"/> Tariff
<input type="checkbox"/> Water/Sewer	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Consideration	<input type="checkbox"/> Proposed Order	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Matter	<input type="checkbox"/> Interconnection Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> Protest	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Interconnection Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Publisher's Affidavit	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Late-Filed Exhibit	<input type="checkbox"/> Report	

Print Form

Reset Form

WILLOUGHBY & HOEFER, P.A.

ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW

930 RICHLAND STREET

P.O. BOX 8416

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29202-8416

MITCHELL M. WILLOUGHBY
JOHN M.S. HOEFER
RANDOLPH R. LOWELL
TRACEY C. GREEN
BENJAMIN P. MUSTIAN
ELIZABETH ZECK*
ELIZABETHANN LOADHOLT FELDER
CHAD N. JOHNSTON
JOHN W. ROBERTS

AREA CODE 803
TELEPHONE 252-3300
TELECOPIER 256-8062

*ALSO ADMITTED IN TX

August 9, 2012

VIA HAND-DELIVERY

The Honorable Jocelyn D. Boyd
Chief Clerk/Administrator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

RE: Application of Palmetto Wastewater Reclamation LLC d/b/a Alpine Utilities for adjustment of rates and charges for, and modification to certain terms and conditions related to, the provision of sewer service. Docket No. 2012-94-S

Dear Ms. Boyd:

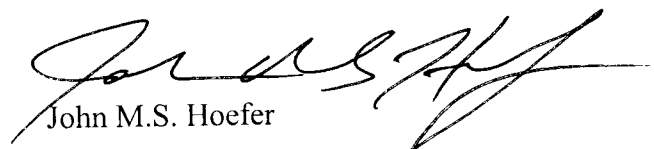
Enclosed for filing are the original and five (5) copies of the Affidavit of Publication and the original and five (5) copies of the Certificate of Mailing in the above-referenced matter. I would appreciate your acknowledging receipt of these documents by date-stamping the extra copies that are enclosed and returning them to me via our courier.

By copy of this letter, I am serving counsel for the Office of Regulatory Staff with a copy of same and enclose a Certificate of Service to that effect.

If you have any questions or if you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. With best regards, I am

Sincerely,

WILLOUGHBY & HOEFER, P.A.


John M.S. Hoefer

JMSH/ccm

Enclosures

cc: Jeffery M. Nelson, Esquire
Courtney Dare Edwards, Esquire

[illegible]

Application of Palmetto of Richland)
County LLC for a Certificate that)
the Acquisition of the City of Columbia)
Sewer Collection System serving portions)
of unincorporated Richland County is in)
the Public Interest and for)
Establishment of a Service Area and)
Rates and Charges)

This is to certify that I have caused to be mailed this day one (1) copy of the **Affidavit of Publication** and one (1) copy of the **Certificate of Mailing of Palmetto Wastewater Reclamation LLC d/b/a Alpine Utilities** by placing same in the care and custody of the United States Postal Service with first class postage affixed thereto and addressed as follows:

Cindy C. Mills
Cindy C. Mills

1

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2012-94-S

IN RE:)
)
Application of Palmetto Wastewater)
Reclamation LLC d/b/a Alpine)
Utilities for adjustment of rates and)
charges for, and the modification of,)
certain terms and conditions related to)
the provision of sewer service.)
_____)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

This is to certify that I, Donna Tuttle, have caused to be mailed this 27th day of July, 2012, via First Class Mail, to all customers of the Applicant, **Palmetto Wastewater Reclamation LLC d/b/a Alpine Utilities** at the customer addresses maintained in the company's billing records, one (1) copy of the **Notice of Filing and Hearing** in the above referenced matter.



Columbia, South Carolina
This 27th day of July, 2012.

THE STATE MEDIA CO., INC.
Columbia, South Carolina
publisher of
The State

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF RICHLAND

Personally appeared before me, Emily Fernandez, Project & Support Supervisor
of THE STATE, and makes oath that the advertisement,

Notice of Filing and Hearing – Docket No. 2012-94-S Palmetto Reclamation LLC
dba Alpine Utilities

was inserted in THE STATE, a daily newspaper of general circulation published in
the City of Columbia, State and County aforesaid, in the issue(s) of

July 26, 2012

Emily Fernandez

Subscribed and sworn to before me

on this day August 3, 2012

Everett F. Hamman

Notary Public

My commission expires
March 10, 2013

*"Errors- the liability of the publisher on account of errors in
or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed
the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in
error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion."*

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA
CLERK'S OFFICE**NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING**

DOCKET NO. 2012-94-S

APPLICATION OF PALMETTO WASTEWATER RECLAMATION LLC d/b/a ALPINE UTILITIES, INC. FOR ADJUSTMENT OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE PROVISION OF SEWER SERVICE AND MODIFICATIONS TO CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE PROVISION OF ITS SERVICE

Palmetto Wastewater Reclamation LLC d/b/a Alpine Utilities, Inc. (the Company) has filed an Application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) for an adjustment of the Company's rates and charges for the provision of sewer service and modifications to certain terms and conditions of the provision of its service. The Company is a public utility, as defined by S.C. Code Ann. § 58-5-10(4) (Supp. 2011), providing sewer service to the public for compensation in certain areas of South Carolina pursuant to rates approved by the Commission in Docket No. 2008-190-S.

Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-5-240, the Company requests that the Commission approve an increase in its monthly sewer service rates and the adoption of certain other charges. In support of its request for this increase, the Company asserts, among other things, that the proposed sewer rate increases are necessary in order that it may provide reasonable and adequate service to its customers, allow the Company to recover its incurred costs, comply with environmental regulations, and earn a reasonable return on its investment. The Company also asserts that the proposed sewer rate increase is necessary to preserve its financial integrity and to permit continued investment in and maintenance of its facilities so as to provide reliable and high quality services. Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 103-512.4.A, the Company also seeks modifications to certain terms and conditions of its rate schedule including the adoption of language pertaining to circumstances under which the Company will bill tenants for service, the inclusion of fees and charges for opening customer accounts, late payments, disconnection notifications and service reconnections, and the incorporation of commercial customer service rates based upon a SCDHEC regulation setting single family equivalency ratings based upon hydraulic flow instead of biochemical oxygen demand as provided for in the current Company rate schedule.

THE PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE RATES AND CHARGES ARE SET FORTH BELOW

(The complete rate schedule is available from the Company at the address below and on the Commission's website at www.psc.sc.gov)

Residential Monthly Charges	Current	Proposed
Residential monthly charge		
Per single-family house, condominium, villa, or apartment unit	\$16.75	\$34.14
Mobile Home	\$13.23	\$25.61
Commercial Monthly Charges		
Charges for commercial establishments served by the Company will be based upon single family equivalency (SFE) ratings set using wastewater treatment plant loading factors established in DHEC regulation 61-67, Appendix A. All commercial customers will pay based on a minimum SFE rating of one (1), which is \$34.14 per month. Some commercial customers will have minimum SFE ratings greater than one (1). Charges for commercial establishments served by the Company using the proposed loading factors and rates are as follows:		
Type of Establishment	Current	Proposed
Assembly Halls:	Formula	
Per Seat	N/A	\$0.43
Barber Shop:	Formula	
Per Employee	N/A	\$0.85
Per Chair	N/A	\$8.54
Bars or Taverns:		
Per Employee	N/A	\$0.85
Per Seat, excluding Restaurant	\$1.19	\$3.41
Beauty Shop:		
Per 1,000 Square Feet Space	\$10.36	N/A
Per Employee	N/A	\$0.85
Per Chair	N/A	\$10.67
Boarding House, dormitory:	Formula	
Per resident	N/A	\$4.27
Bowling Alley:		
Per Employee	N/A	\$0.85
Per Lane, no restaurant, bar or lounge	N/A	\$10.67
Per Lane, excluding Restaurant	\$5.24	N/A
Camps:	Formula	
Resort, Luxury per person	N/A	\$8.54
Summer, per person	N/A	\$4.27
Day, with central bathhouse, per person	N/A	\$2.99
Travel Trailer, per site	N/A	\$14.94
Car Wash:	Formula	
Per Car Washed	N/A	\$6.40
Churches:		
Per Seat	\$0.32	\$0.26
Clinics, Doctor's Office:	Formula	
Per Employee	N/A	\$1.28
Per Patient	N/A	\$0.43
Country Club, Fitness Center, Spa:	Formula	
(Per Member)	N/A	\$4.27
Dentist Office:	Formula	
Per Employee	N/A	\$1.28
Per Chair	N/A	\$0.68
Per Suction Unit; Standard Unit	N/A	\$31.58
Per Suction Unit; Recycling Unit	N/A	\$8.11
Per Suction Unit; Air Generated Unit	N/A	N/A
Factories:		
Per Employee (No Showers)	\$1.56	\$2.13
Per Employee (With Showers)	\$2.06	\$2.99
Per Employee (With Kitchen s)	\$2.59	\$3.41
Per Employee (With showers and Kitchen)	N/A	\$3.84
Fairgrounds:	Formula	
Average Attendance, Per Person	N/A	\$0.43
Grocery Stores:	Formula	
Per one thousand (1,000) Square Feet, No Restaurant	N/A	\$17.07

Per Resident Staff	N/A	\$8.54
Per Bed N/A	\$17.07	
Hotels:	Formula	
Per bedroom, no restaurant	N/A	\$8.54
Institutions:		
Per Resident	\$4.40	\$8.54
Laundries:		
Self Service (Per Machine)	\$10.81	\$34.14
Motels:		
Per Unit (No Restaurant)	\$4.40	\$8.54
Nursing Homes:		
Per Bed \$4.40	\$8.54	
Per Bed (With Laundry)	\$5.17	\$12.80
Offices, \$1.29	\$2.13	
Small Stores,	Formula	\$2.13
Businesses,	Formula	\$2.13
Administration Buildings:	Formula	\$2.13
All Per Person (No Restaurant)		
Picnic Parks:		
Average Attendance, per person	\$1.56	\$0.85
Prison/Jail:	Formula	
Per employee	N/A	\$1.28
Per inmate	N/A	\$10.67
Rest Area, Welcome Center	Formula	
Per Person	N/A	\$0.43
Per Person, with Shower	N/A	\$0.85
Rest Homes:		
Per Bed \$4.40	\$8.54	
Per Bed (With Laundry)	\$5.17	\$12.80
Restaurants:		
Fast Food Type, Not Twenty Four		
(24) Hours, Per Seat	\$5.17	\$3.41
24 Hour Restaurant (Per Seat)	\$7.77	\$5.97
Drive-In, Per Car Space	\$5.17	\$3.41
Drive-Thru, per Car Served	N/A	\$3.41
Vending Machine (per person)	\$3.11	\$3.41
Walk-up Deli (Per Person)	Formula	\$3.41
Schools, Day Care:		
Per Person (No Showers, Gym, Cafeteria)	\$1.03	\$0.85
Per Person (With Cafeteria, No Gym, Showers)	\$1.29	\$1.28
Per Person (With Cafeteria, Gym, Showers)	\$1.56	\$1.71
Service Stations:		
Without Bay	\$36.40	N/A
First Bay	\$51.81	N/A
Each Additional Bay (Per Bay)	\$25.91	N/A
Per Employee	N/A	\$0.85
Per Car Served	N/A	\$0.85
Car Wash (Per Car Washed)	N/A	\$6.40
Shopping Centers,		
Large Department Stores,	Formula	
Malls:	Formula	
Per 1,000 Square Feet Space (No Restaurant)	\$10.36	\$17.07
Stadiums, coliseums	Formula	
Per seat, no restaurant	N/A	\$0.43
Swimming Pools:		
(Per Person with Sewer Facilities and Showers)	\$1.03	\$0.85
Theatres:		
Drive-In (Per Stall)	\$0.47	\$0.43
Indoor (Per Seat)	\$0.47	\$0.43

Sewer Service Connection Charge per Single-Family Equivalent - \$250.00

Notification Fee (Regarding Disconnection of Service) - \$25.00

Customer Account Charge Related to Initiating Service - \$20.00

Reconnection Charges - In addition to any other charges that may be due, a reconnection fee of \$250.00 shall be due prior to the Utility reconnecting service which has been disconnected for any reason set forth in Commission Regulation 103-532.4. Where an **elder valve** has been previously installed a reconnection charge of \$35.00 shall be required.

Late Payment Charges - Any balance unpaid within twenty-five days of the billing date shall be assessed a late payment charge of one and one-half percent.

A copy of the Company's entire Application, including its proposed rate schedule, can be obtained from the Commission at the following address: Public Service Commission of South Carolina, Clerk's Office, P. O. Drawer 11649, Columbia, South Carolina 29211. Additionally, the Company's Application is available on the Commission's website at www.psc.sc.gov.

In order for testimony and evidence to be received from all interested parties, a public hearing will be held in the Commission's Hearing Room, Synergy Business Park, 101 Executive Center Dr., Columbia, South Carolina on Thursday, **December 6, 2012, at 10:30 am.**

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter, as a party of record with the right of cross-examination should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, on or before **August 17, 2012**, and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. Please include an email address for receipt of future Commission correspondence in the Petition to Intervene. **Please refer to Docket No. 2012-84-S.**

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing should notify the Clerk's Office, in writing, at the address below, the Office of Regulatory Staff, 1401 Main Street, Suite 900, Columbia, South Carolina 29201, and John M. S. Hoefler, Esquire, Willoughby & Hoefler, P.A., Post Office Box 8416, Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8416 on or before **August 17, 2012**, and indicate the amount of time required for the presentation. **Please refer to Docket No. 2012-84-S.**

Any person who wishes to request a hearing in his or her county of residence should notify on or before August 17, 2012, in writing, the Clerk's Office at the address below, the Office of Regulatory Staff, 1401 Main Street, Suite 900, Columbia, South Carolina 29201, and John M. S. Hoefler, Esquire, Willoughby & Hoefler, P. A., Post Office Box 8416, Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8416. **Please refer to Docket No. 2012-84-S.**

Any person who wishes to be notified of any change in the hearing date, but does not wish to present testimony or be a party of record, may do so by notifying the Clerk's Office in writing at the address below on or before **August 17, 2012**. **Please refer to Docket No. 2012-84-S.**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: Any person who wishes to have his or her comments considered as part of the official record of this proceeding **MUST** present such comments, in person, to the Commission during the hearing.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission in Columbia at 803-896-5100.

Public Service Commission of South Carolina

Attn: Clerk's Office

Post Office Drawer 11649

Columbia, SC 29211

7/17/12